

hired and it is easy to imagine the many missteps and pitfalls we escaped due to Martha's able administrative management of this Office. I trusted my instincts in the wisdom of giving Martha free reign to manage the Office. She didn't disappoint me. She quickly mastered the often arcane government procurement, leasing, personnel and other regulations and as quickly enlisted the part-time services of an extremely talented accounting consultant, Philip J. Rooney. With Phil's able assistance and Martha's tight control systems, Martha was able to steer this Office through every GAO audit with perfect scores. She also did an extraordinarily good job in keeping costs down at every turn, including costs associated with a major and necessary office move and with two consecutive openings of offices in St. Paul. In addition to her extremely capable management, Martha is a truly decent and caring person who gave more than just her skills and good counsel to this Office and to me. She set the tone for a harmonious and healthy work place. I know I speak for every one who worked in this Office when I say we all benefitted greatly from Martha's management and her personal style and are very, very grateful to her.

There were others who worked in a full-time or part-time capacity for our Office during periods of the investigation whom I have not mentioned here. To every one of them, I am thankful for their contribution.

With the sunset of the independent counsel statute, there is uncertainty as to what the future holds should the Department of Justice determine that there is a high-placed government official who is accused of wrong-doing and the Department has a conflict of interest in investigating that person's conduct. Statute or none, I am of the humble belief that if a lawyer is appointed by some executive, judicial, or legislative body to investigate this hypothetical high-placed official and that lawyer has the good fortune to assemble a staff as capable and